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D/NESA 84-066  
1 March 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

THROUGH: [REDACTED]

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Legislative Liaison

FROM: [REDACTED]

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Deputy Director, Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis

SUBJECT: Lebanon Briefing, 1 March 1984

1. [REDACTED] and I briefed the House Armed Services Committee on Lebanon today. Twenty-seven of the Committee's 45 members were present at one time or another. I made the initial presentation and the session was then thrown open for questions. [REDACTED] asked me to give you a sense of the meeting. 25X1

2. Most questions were fairly straightforward and informational in tone and motivation. Several members strayed into areas requiring a bit more finesse, which I hope I was able to muster. Before the session I told [REDACTED] I would avoid unnecessary comment on US policy in Lebanon but that I would speak my mind about our analysts' gloomy projections of Lebanon's future. 25X1

3. Eventually we will get a transcript of the proceedings, but here are my recollections of the questions and answers touching on policy matters:

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I also noted that we are frequent participants in making more formal estimates/projections on questions framed by the policy community. I opined that I thought our record on Lebanon was a good one (I avoided any comment that our pubs had been criticized for being too negative) and I read to the group a portion of the Key Judgments of the October SNIE on Prospects for Lebanon (copy attached). My interrogator said something to the effect, "It seems to me that no one has been reading your stuff."

4. I may have forgotten some of the policy-sensitive items, but all-in-all the session was not particularly a bad one and I did not feel at any time that it was an adversarial situation.

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Attachment



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